Planning Commission's Comment on NREP in West Bengal

1842. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM; DR. R. K. PODDAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of the comments made by the Planning Commission that NREP work is being done with less expenditure in West Bengal because of active public participation through Panchayat system; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI); (a) and (b) Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has conducted an evaluation study on implementation of the National Rujral Employment Programme (NREP) in nine States, including West Bengal. Case studies were also conducted by this Organisation in Bihar and Orissa. The study reveals that in West Bengal, the programme is implemented through three tier Panchayati Raj system, i.e. Zilla Parishad at the didstrict level, Pan-chayat Samiti at the block level and the Gram Panchayat at the village level. There is no specific comment in the study report that implementation of NREP in West Bengal is carried out with less expenditure or economically. The guidelines issued by the Government of India have always emphasised the importance of associating the Panchayati Raj institutions in the implementation of rural development programmes.

Development and Expansion of Sugar Industry

1843. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 97 crores have been sanctioned to 83 sugar factories for their development and expansion;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have issued letters of intent and licences for setting up 17 new sugar factories, and 16 factories have been sanctioned loan on soft terms for modernisation and expansion; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) A sum of Rs. 97 crore has been sanctioned for implementation of schemes aimed at development of sugarcane, to 83 sugar mills in the country.

(b) The details of the sugar mills and the amount of loan Sanctioned for development of sugarcane are as under:

Name of State	No. of sugar mills sanctioned loan	Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Maharashtra .	43	3736.13
Tamil Nadu .	14	2666.05
Andhra Pradesh	14	1551.47
Haryana . .	7	1284.01
Madhya Pradesh	2	138.73
Punjab . .	1	243.86
Uttar Pradesh .	1	26.26
Assam . . .	1	55.62

(c) and (d) Proposals for setting up 17 new sugar units in 4 States have been approved. Out of these

letters of intent have been issued for 12 units. The details are as follows;

State	Cases approved	No. of letters of intent issued
Uttar Pradesh	2	1
Punjab	4	4
Tamil Nadu	9	6
Maharashtra	2	1
TOTAL	17	12

Loans from Sugar Development Fund have been sanctioned to 16 sugar factories for modernisation/ rehabilitation of plant and machinery. The state-wise details are as under: —

State	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
Uttar Pradesh	549.92
Bihar	122.02
Maharashtra	399.00
Andhra Pradesh	40.00
Tamil Nadu	50.00
Punjab	88.00
TOTAL	1248.94

Import of Pulses by NAFED and STC

1844. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 70 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th February, 1988 and state;

(a) the quantity and the varieties of pulses imported by NAFED and STC so far and the rate,3 at which these pulses were imported by these two agencies, separately and how the imported pulses were disposed of;

(b) whether the import of pulses > was allowed under Open General Licence;

(c) whether Government are aware of the rates at which the pulses were imported by private parties; and

(d) whether there is any difference in import prices and if so, what are the reasons therefor and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHY AM LAL YADAV): (a) The quantity of pulses imported by NAFED so far is of the order of 29995 MT. The varieties of imported pulses by NAFED covered Red whole/split lentils, yellow split lentils, chic peas whole green peas, urad; moong etc. The pulses imported by NAFED ranged approximately around US $ 245—US $ 415 PMT depending upon the variety, quality, source, terms of shipment etc. As far as possible, the imported stocks have been supplied by NAFED to the State Government/Cooperative agen- -cies.

The quantity of pulses imported by the STC was 12,500 MT (till 23.2.1988) including Red lentils, split green lentils, chic peas, Dun peas, urad, moong. The prices of imported pulses ranged approximately around US $ 227— US 367 PMT depending upon the quantum, variety, quality, etc.. The pulses were disposed of to State Cooperative Marketing Federations and Private parties.

(b) The import of pulses is under OGL. All eligible importers are required to register their contracts with the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED).